



Together For Quality

Alabama Medicaid Agency

What is *Together for Quality*?

Together for Quality is an Alabama Medicaid Agency-led initiative to transform the state's fragmented claims and process-oriented system into one that is coordinated, patient-centered and cost-efficient.

What are the goals for *Together for Quality*?

1. Medicaid Transformation: To change the way Medicaid does business by simplifying provider access and use of information at the point of care by developing a real-time, claims-based electronic health record for provider use to improve patient health outcomes. A clinical support tool using care management data will also be developed to enable providers to improve care choices and better manage their patients, especially those with chronic illnesses.
2. Statewide health information system development: To create a system that allows state agencies and providers to share information electronically to improve patient health and control costs.

What are the expected benefits of *Together for Quality*?

- Improved health outcomes through chronic disease case management, thereby reducing Alabama's chronic disease burden and preventing health complications;
- Improved health services coordination and reduction of duplicated services through electronic data use and data-driven quality improvement, thereby reducing costs in the healthcare system;
- Enhanced public health, disease surveillance and disaster preparedness;
- Advancements in health care research; and
- Ability to better control and reduce costs.

Who are the *Together for Quality* stakeholders?

Governor Riley, Alabama Medicaid Agency; and the Alabama Departments of Public Health, Senior Services, Mental Health, Human Resources, Rehabilitation Services, and Information Systems. Also, Alabama's Medical, Primary HealthCare, Pharmacy, Primary Care Physicians, Family Practice Physicians, Hospital, and Nursing Home Associations; Alabama Quality Assurance Foundation, Providers, Consumers, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama, Employers, and the Governor's Task Force to Strengthen Alabama's Families.

How is *Together for Quality* being implemented?

- A Stakeholders' Council, Steering Committee and five workgroups are working in concert with Medicaid staff and others to safeguard privacy and security while creating a sustainable, valued resource for the state.
- Working with the project's vendor, the TFQ initiative will develop an electronic health record and clinical support tool; conduct a pilot test of up to 500 Medicaid providers in 11 counties, provide user support and system maintenance as core elements of the quality improvement process.
- Starting with the Alabama Department of Senior Services, the TFQ project will develop and test a system to share health information on common clients.

Need more information?

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